

PRESS RELEASE

Cordlife to assist autistic children in Singapore to participate in groundbreaking Duke Medicine trial

- Autism affects approximately 24,000 individuals in Singapore.
- Current treatment for autistic patients is limited to rehabilitation therapy to help improve their social interaction, communication skills and flexibility.
- Duke Medicine research program to validate usage of patients' privately stored cord blood stem cells in treatment of autism and other brain disorders.

Singapore, 14 July 2014 – Cordlife Group Limited ("Cordlife", and together with its subsidiaries, the "Group"), a multi-product healthcare company catering to the mother and child segment, is pleased to share the development of several promising stem cell applications for the treatment of autism and other brain disorders and is extending support to link patients in Singapore with Duke Medicine research program for such treatment.

Duke Medicine received¹ a donation of U\$15 million from The Marcus Foundation, an Atlanta-based philanthropic organization, last month to support an innovative research program that explores the use of umbilical cord blood cells to treat autism, stroke, cerebral palsy and related brain disorders. Dr Joanne Kurtzberg, Chief Scientific and Medical Officer of Duke's Robertson Cell and Translational Therapy Program, and a director of the Paediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Program as well as the Carolinas Cord Blood Bank, was quoted in the Duke Medicine news release saying that '*the whole program has enormous potential*' and '*will have a huge personal and societal impact.*'

Mr Jeremy Yee, Chief Executive Officer of Cordlife said: "At Cordlife, we care about and share parents' interest in alleviating the pain and suffering of their children stricken with illnesses. Over the years, we have earned the trust of parents to store their babies' precious cord blood and cord lining² with us. The Duke Medicine research program confirms our long-held beliefs that the potential for future use of cord blood and cord lining will grow with the advancement in cell therapy. This is especially timely, as we celebrate National Cord Blood Awareness Month in July."

¹ http://corporate.dukemedicine.org/news_and_publications/news_office/news/15-million-award-to-go-toward-exploring-new-treatments-for-autism-other-brain-disorders, Accessed on 1 July 2014

² The storage and banking of umbilical cord tissue services provided in Singapore is currently not licensed by the Ministry of Health, Singapore. This service is provided on a research/clinical trial basis.

Once successful, this would be great news for about 24,000³ autistic patients in Singapore. Autism spectrum disorder⁴ (ASD) is a range of complex neurodevelopment disorders, characterised by social impairments, communication difficulties, and restricted, repetitive and stereotyped patterns of behaviour. Autism, the most severe form of ASD, affects about 216 children in Singapore every year. Current treatment for autistic patients is limited to rehabilitation therapy to help improve their social interaction, communication skills and flexibility.

According to Duke Medicine, cord blood has been shown to lessen the clinical and radiographic impact of hypoxic brain injury and stroke in animal models and in infants with hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy. Cord blood also engrafts and differentiates in the brain, facilitating neural cell repair in animal models and human patients with inborn errors of metabolism undergoing allogeneic, unrelated donor cord blood transplantation. They also said that infusion of autologous cord blood does not require immunosuppression and has been shown to be safe in young children with brain injuries such as cerebral palsy and stroke. In this study, the investigators hypothesize that infusion of a patient's own cord blood cells can offer neural protection or repair in the brain and reduction of inflammation associated with this disorder.

Patients outside of the United States are eligible for participation in the autism clinical trials conducted by Duke Medicine, if they meet the inclusion and exclusion criteria⁵ determined by Duke Medicine. Some of the key criteria include the following: (i) the patient must be aged between 24 months and 72 months old at the time of visit; (ii) the patient having had his cord blood stem cells stored privately; and (iii) the patient would need to travel at least three times to Duke Medicine in the United States – at the infusion, the six- and 12-month follow up stages. This clinical trial is entirely sponsored by Duke Medicine so participants are not required to pay for the costs of treatment. However, the travel stipend is limited to U\$1,000 per trip.

Any member of the public in Singapore who is keen to find out more or participate in the Duke Medicine research program can contact Cordlife Group Limited at 6238 0808 or email to therapy@cordlife.com.

- The End -

³ <http://autism.org.sg/aboutus/mission.php>, Accessed on 1 July 2014

⁴ http://www.ninds.nih.gov/disorders/autism/detail_autism.htm. Accessed 2 July 2014

⁵ <http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02176317?term=autism+and+cord+blood&rank=1>, Accessed on 4 July 2014

ABOUT CORDLIFE GROUP LIMITED (Bloomberg stock code: CLGL)

Incorporated in May 2001, Cordlife Group Limited (“Cordlife”, and together with its subsidiaries, the “Group”), is a multi-product healthcare company catering to the mother and child segment and a leading cord blood and umbilical cord lining banking services provider. Amongst the first private cord blood banks in Asia, Cordlife has established a dominant market leader position in Singapore⁶. Today, it has the larger market share of the only two private cord blood banks in Singapore. In Hong Kong, it is amongst the three market leaders for private cord blood banks. Cordlife completed the acquisition of the cord blood and umbilical cord lining banking businesses and assets in India, the Philippines and Indonesia from Australia-listed Life Corporation Limited (formerly known as Cordlife Limited) in June 2013.

Cordlife, through its collaborative relationships or arrangements with major private hospitals and clinics such as Thomson Medical and Parkway East Hospital, has continued to increase public awareness of its cord blood banking services in Singapore. Overseas, the Group has a 10% direct stake in China Cord Blood Corporation – a top cord blood bank operator in China holding majority shares in the Beijing, Guangdong and Zhejiang Cord Blood Banks, and an approximately 24% share in Shandong Cord Blood Bank. In October 2013, Cordlife also acquired a 19.92% stake, which was subsequently increased to approximately 31.81% in December 2013, in StemLife Berhad. StemLife Berhad is a fully licensed cord blood banking facility with the Ministry of Health Malaysia currently listed on the ACE Market of Bursa Malaysia.

Cordlife has been accredited since 2005 by AABB (formerly known as the American Association of Blood Banks), an association involved in the field of transfusion medicine and cellular therapies. The Group is one of the first private cord blood banks in Singapore and amongst the first in Hong Kong to have released cord blood units for transplants and other therapeutic use. In Singapore, Cordlife was the first private cord blood bank to release cord blood units for the treatment of cerebral palsy.

Cordlife’s track record has won the Group many accolades and awards, including: Best Medical Service Award 2010 by Capital CEO Supreme Brand Awards; Top Pregnant/Baby Products Award 2011 by Pregnancy Magazine; Outstanding Financial Strength Cord Blood Bank 2012 by Quamnet Outstanding Enterprise Awards; Most Popular Brand Award 2010 – The Most Popular Cord Blood Bank by TVB Weekly; U-Choice Lifestyle Brand Award 2010 by Metroinfo FM99.7; Baby & Kid Brands Awards year 2013, “My Favourite Cord Blood Bank” by Hong Kong Economic Times; and Baby Kingdom Top 10 Family Brand Award 2012⁷. In October 2012, Cordlife was awarded the prestigious SIAS Investors’ Choice Awards as runner-up in the “Most Transparent Company Award 2012” New Issues Category. In August 2013, we were presented with Merit Award for the Singapore Corporate Awards 2013, “Best Investor Relations Award”. In November 2013, Cordlife was named the “Most Transparent Company 2013” in the Retail & Household Goods Category and Mainboard Small Caps Category at the 14th SIAS Investors’ Choice Awards.

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⁶ Source : Deloitte & Touche Financial Advisory Services Limited report, 10 April 2013

⁷ Awarded to Cordlife (Hong Kong) Limited